Tax rebates for promotion of exports

†2309. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tax rebates are given as economic incentive by Government in order to promote exports in the country;

(b) if so, whether economic aid of Rs. 41,029 crores was given as incentive during 2004-05 which was 9 per cent of total value of exports;

(c) if not, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount provided as incentive during the above period under 'Special Agriculture Measure Scheme' under the above said economic incentives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) One of the stated strategies of the Foreign Trade Policy is neutralizing incidence of all levies and duties on inputs used in export products, based on the fundamental principle that duties and levies should not be exported. Major schemes under Foreign Trade Policy have been formulated to neutralize such levies and duties which cannot be considered economic incentive or economic aid.

(b) and (c) As explained above, Major schemes of Foreign Trade Policy do not incentivise exports, and only strive to meet the duty neutralization needs of the exporters.

(d) No Duty credit or amount was provided under the scheme Vishesh Krishi Upaj during the year 2004-05.

Approval to Maharashtra Especial Economic Zone and Designated Area Act, 2004

2310. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:
SHRI R.S. GAVAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Maharashtra has sent a Maharashtra Special Economic and Designated Area Act, 2004 for the administrative approval of Government;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.